

**NL INDUSTRIES/TARACORP SUPERFUND SITE GROUP
LEED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.**

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October 9, 2000

First Class Mail

Mr. Brad Bradley
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

**RE: NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site; Granite City, Illinois
Consent Decree
Voluntary Progress Report 17 (September 2000)**

Dear Mr. Bradley:

As requested by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), two copies of this letter are submitted on behalf of the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group ("Group") on a voluntary basis to provide EPA with a progress report for activities related to the remediation of the residential lots and remote fill areas, the remediation of the Taracorp pile, and the remedial design for groundwater that were performed in regard to the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site (the "site") during September 2000.

1. Actions Taken During Previous Month to Comply with the Consent Decree:

- During September 2000, ENTACT, Inc. ("ENTACT") continued to prepare the Remedial Action Report for the Taracorp pile and industrial site. ENTACT also continued to prepare an Operation and Maintenance Plan.
- During September 2000, ARCADIS Geraghty & Miller ("ARCADIS") continued to perform activities associated with the pre-design investigation for groundwater, including preparation of the Pre-Design Investigation Report for Groundwater.
- On September 6, 2000, the Group's project coordinator issued a voluntary progress report to EPA.
- On September 29, 2000, ARCADIS submitted the Pre-Design Investigation Report for Groundwater to EPA on behalf of the Group.



- On September 30, 2000, the Group's project coordinator received a copy of EPA's Explanation of Significant Differences ("ESD") for groundwater. The Group's project coordinator distributed the ESD to Group members and ARCADIS personnel for review.

2. **Summary of Data and/or Results of Sampling and Tests Received:**

- Validated analytical data from the pre-design field investigation for groundwater were included in the Pre-Design Investigation Report for Groundwater which was submitted by ARCADIS to EPA on September 29, 2000.

3. **Work Plans, Plans, and Other Deliverables Completed and Submitted to EPA During the Previous Month:**

- As noted above, ARCADIS submitted the Pre-Design Investigation Report for Groundwater to EPA on September 29, 2000.

4. **Actions, Data Collection, and Implementation of Work Plans and Other Information Related to the Progress of Construction which are Scheduled to be Performed During the Next Six-Week Period:**

- ENTACT will continue efforts to finalize the Remedial Action Report for the Taracorp pile and industrial site. At the present time, the Group anticipates that ENTACT will complete the report and submit it to EPA for review in October 2000.
- ENTACT will continue efforts to prepare an Operation and Maintenance Plan for the site. The Group currently anticipates that ENTACT will finalize the Operation and Maintenance Plan and submit the document to EPA for review in October 2000.
- Upon receipt of EPA's comments, if any, on the Remedial Action Report for the remediation of residential lots and remote fill areas, the Group and ENTACT will initiate efforts to address the comments and prepare a revised report.
- Upon receipt of EPA's comments, if any, on the Pre-Design Investigation Report for Groundwater, the Group and ARCADIS will initiate efforts to address the comments and prepare a revised report.
- The Group will review EPA's ESD, discuss the ESD with EPA, and initiate efforts to prepare a long-term monitoring plan for groundwater.

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5. **Problems Encountered, Anticipated Problems, Actual or Anticipated Delays, and Efforts Developed or Implemented to Mitigate Delays:**

- Not applicable of this reporting period.

6. **Modifications to Work Plans or Schedules Proposed to EPA or Approved by EPA:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

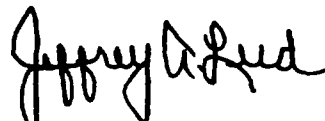
7. **Community Relations Activities During Previous Month or to be Undertaken During Next Six-Week Period:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

Should you or your staff have questions or comments regarding this progress report, please contact this office at (610) 670-7310.

Very truly yours,

LEED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.



Jeffrey A. Leed
Project Coordinator

cc: Ms. Sandra Bron - Illinois EPA (by first class mail)
Mr. Tim Healy - ENTACT, Inc. (by first class mail)
Mr. Jack Kratzmeyer - ARCADIS Geraghty & Miller (by first class mail)
Technical Committee, NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group (by first class mail)